The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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BOASTED PUBLIC OPINION IS SILENT AS COAL OWNERS FORCE NATION-WIDE STRIKE

There is a similarity in the views of coal owners and the "public" they continually refer to.

When the miners suspended work in 1919 the strike was heralded as defiance of law and order and the government rushed to the rescue of our tottering civilization.

At that time the market was on the coal owners' side, with a strong demand for coal.

Today a strike seems imminent. The coal owners have broken an agreement in the central competitive field, which is the "key" to all wage movements in the bituminous fields.

This strike prospect does not alarm coal owners or their "public."

The reason is plain. Industry is prostrate and coal stocks equal the peak war-time figures. It is stated that the stored coal will outlast a three-months' strike.

Under these conditions the coal owners figure that the time is opportune to smash the Mine Workers' union.

It will be noticed that the public is not lashed into a fury against the coal owners. The government does not rush into Judge Anderson's court, in response to a manufactured clamor.

That jurist is not told that the coal owners' policy will lead to revolution. Newspapers do not editorialize on "the rights of the public." Instead, the public is coolly informed that coal prices will be increased because of the strike.

Our "best citizens" do not warn the coal owners that "they will have to answer to the public." Statesmen do not thunder in legislative halls on bolshevik coal owners.

Not a single "100 per cent American" has objected to the coal owners' policy in tones above a whisper. None of the cant phrases or flag-flapping appeals of 1919 are heard.

The public is not warned, as in 1919, that the nation's life is endangered by agitators and selfish individuals. Government officials are not assembled, as in 1919, when it was popular for men to hiss their hates against miners who asked a living wage.

Today the wolfish snarls are missing. Labor stands practically alone in protesting against contract-breaking autocrats, who sneer at the public and to governments: "Whatcha goin' to do about it?"

The timidity today of those who talked so brave in 1919 is most marked.

One public official is quoted that the government will not act unless the miners as long as the stocks of coal last.

Or, in other words, the coal owners are notified that they have a free hand against the miners as long as the stocks of coal last.

If the miners have not been starved out when the coal stocks get low, then the government will act. Then injunctions, soldiers, gun men and an enraged public press will be leveled at the miners.

Then the miners, their wives and their women and children may hunger in this fight for justice, but they will not be noticed by the public until coal stocks are low.

Then the strike "affects the public interest."

According to this reasoning a social wrong never affects "the public interest" until the public is inconvenienced.

This is what the public has in mind when it talks about its "rights." The public, however, is never heard discussing its duties.

CAN CHECK RENT GOUGERS; CONTRACT NO PROTECTION

Washington, March 25.—For the third time within a year the United States supreme court has ruled that where housing conditions are bad, even the sacredness of contract must give way to the people's welfare. The court's latest decision upholds the legality of the New York emergency housing and anti-profiteering laws, which takes from gouging landlords the right to fix rental charges.

The court said that the New York housing shortage resulted in unsanitary conditions, disease, immorality, discomfort and widespread social discontent. Under these conditions, the court said, the state legislature has the right to exercise its wide powers to promote the health, morality, comfort and peace of the people.

The court reaffirmed its judgment in the Brown case, appealed last year from New York city, and the Block decision, appealed from Washington, D. C.

The three decisions show wide differences of opinion among the judges. In his minority opinion in the Block case Justice McKenna expressed views of unusual sharpness. He declared, in effect, that the court has departed from its constitutional moorings and abandoned its ancient stand on the sacredness of contract and property rights. Justice McKenna insisted that the majority of his colleagues were upholding a law that permitted a tenant to violate a contract that he would vacate an apartment when his lease expired.

Joining with Justice McKenna were Chief Justice White and Associate Justices Van Devanter and McReynolds.

The justices took the same position as the other rent law cases. In the present New York case the defenders of landlord regulation have been strengthened by Chief Justice Taft, who succeeded the late Chief Justice White. The court now stands six to three, rather than five to four, as it did last year.

These three decisions will have a far-reaching effect, as they permit state legislatures to combat rent-racking landlords during emergencies. This theory may be applied to other cases, which caused Justice McKenna to ask where will the court stop in its new venture.

LIVING WAGE DENIED EASTERN MILL LABOR

Washington, March 25.—"In New England at the present possible wages of her workers, it is necessary that not only the father but the mother go into the mills to support a family in common decency," said President Gompers on his return to Washington, D. C., headquarters from a tour through the eastern textile section where he spoke in behalf of employes who are resisting wage reductions.

"With the father and mother in the mill, children are in the mill, or neglected at home or on the street," said President Gompers. "A 20 per cent reduction in the possible $17 weekly wage against which the workers are protesting would take $3.40 out of each pay envelope every week, and who could do what little pleasure and joy there is in life, as well as some of the direct necessities.

"The mill owners, not satisfied with offering a reduction in wages, are insisting upon lengthening the hours from 48 to 54 per week, which would mean 10 hours every week day, except four hours on Saturday, and this after these same workers nearly a year ago had accepted a 22½ per cent reduction.

"To drag the New England textile workers down to the southern standard in order to establish evidence for something against which the workers of New England will fight to the last ditch.

"Furthermore, it is a known fact that the same financial interests that control the southern mills also largely control the northern mills, and to be parcelled to slay one against the other is an inhuman thing, unworthy of our boasted Christianity."

PRICE UP, WAGE DOWN LUMBER BARONS' PLAN

Seattle, March 25.—Lumber barons have forced wages down and prices up to such an extent that small dealers out of business, sought to control legislation in the state of Washington, adopted the art of dodging taxes that has not been acquired by any other group of exploiters, says Harry T. Call of the International Union of Timber Workers.

The unionist shows that wages have been cut 40 to 50 per cent. In some cases the present low wage is paid for a nine or 10-hour day, whereas in 1920 the higher rate was paid for an eight-hour day.

"As a result of extended shut downs they have practically paralyzed the industry, but the price of lumber has gone up by leaps and bounds. Comparing the wholesale prices, carload lots, of the mill, quoted officially by the lumber owners on August 1, 1922, on 12 main items of lumber with the same 12 items in their report of January 16, 1922, shows an average price increase of $8.25 per thousand, or over 29 per cent increase.

"The daily papers and the official journals of the lumber owners are now pointing out that production in this industry is nearly normal, that the market is compiled and prices 'better.' However, they still claim they are losing money. With a 29 per cent increase in the price of 12 main items of lumber, and a decrease in the wages of from 40 to 50 per cent, the claim of losing money does not sound just right."

Public Is "Worked" By Rail Lobbyists

Trenton, N. J., March 25.—The state legislature has passed a 2-cent fare repealer over Governor Edwards' veto, ostensibly to relieve the "dear public" that they have again been "worked" by railroad lobbyists and corporation lawyers, who talked of reduced living costs if the law were repealed.

The plea of the governor shows that the repealer permits the railroads to escape paying a large sum for missed employes are not needed, and provides that these dismissed employes must present this proof to the public utility commission.

If the dismissed employes fail to protest, no other provision is made to compel the roads to properly run their trains.

WANT CAPITALISTS THREATENED—AGAIN

Council Bluffs, Iowa, March 25.—The central labor union of this city wants capitalists notified that they must open their "open shop" or the unions will use their economic power.

The central body has compiled a long list of recommendations to meet present conditions. They include a nation-wide conference of all organizations. Then would be featured by all the nationals capitalists demanding that the open shop and the campaign of Moldenhauer immediately cease, and in the event that the request is not heeded that the request is not heeded all the unions use their economic power to compel capitalistic justice. These demands which are guaranteed every citizen of the United States; namely, the right to live."

HARD COAL TOO HIGH.

New York, March 25.—Anthracite coal was too high in price, according at least $4 a ton more than they should, according to Charles O'Neill, secretary of the anthracite coal consumers' association.

This was made up, he said, by excess freight rate of $1.30, and refuse shipped as coal, $1.70. Another item would mean another saving of at least $1.20 and excessive profits.

No intention was seen by Mr. Allen of the statement by the government, recently made, to award, when, in making the present wage rate, coal owners were notified that they must "put their own house in order and if members are not to be frightened in this way."

WHY REILLY IS OPPOSED.

Washington, March 25.—The effort to oust E. Mont Reilly as governor of Porto Rico is part of an absolutely outrageous plot by monopolists of the island, according to Congressman Strong, of Kansas, who made a long speech in the house.

Governor Reilly is being attacked by Felix Cordova-Davila, Porto Rican commissioner to Washington, the Porto Rickn end of the fight being directed by Senator Harris, president pro tem of the Porto Rican state and leading monarchist.

In his speech Congressman Strong referred to cablegrams between Davila and Reilly, in which the latter forwarded the commissioner's words to carry on the fight to separate the island from the United States.

COAL OUTPUT INCREASES.

Washington, March 25.—Stimulated by the report of a coal strike, bituminous production is climbing to new heights surpassed, except during the peak of the war boom, according to the United States geological survey.

WIRE MEN VICTIMIZED.

Olitca, N. Y., March 25.—The local telephone company is facing a strike of electrical workers because it discharged 13 employes who joined the union.

CHEAP-WAGE MANUFACTURER HIGH BIDDER FOR ARMY SHOES

Boston, March 25.—That wages is not the main factor in shoe merchandising is again proven by Editor Baine of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Journal, who quotes bids recently made to the government for 20,000 pairs of army officers' dress shoes of four specified types.

On one type of shoe the bids of nine manufacturers were $4.45, $8.06, $5.09, $5.95, $5.07, $5.05, $7.37, $5.76 and 5.75.

Editor Baine calls attention to the wide difference in these bids, the lowest being $4.45 and the highest $8.06, the bids, of course, being based on the same army specifications as to materials, workmanship and construction.

"We do not understand that the difference in these bids is in any way chargeable to varied labor costs," says the labor editor.

"A difference of $3.61 in price cannot be so accounted for. This difference is more than three times the total labor cost.

"Moreover the high bidder has been running an anti-union shop for many years, while the low bidder is a first-class concern operating at war peak wages without reduction.

"Such instances as these furnish renewed proof that wages or labor cost is not the main factor in merchandising shoes."

ALLEN'S "COURT" DISHONEST TERM

Topeka, Kan., March 25. — The United States supreme court and the Kansas supreme court both declare Governor Allen's court of industrial relations is merely a board or commission, and is in no sense a properly constituted court.

While neither supreme court has indicated hostility to what Allen would accomplish they do resent an invasion of their jurisdiction by mountebank methods.

The United States supreme court has made this reference to the Allen handicuffer: "The board, miscalled a court,"

This declaration is identical to the position taken by Justice Burch of the Kansas supreme court, who ruled that Allen's scheme is simply an administrative board and that it was called a court "as a piece of legislative strategy."

This dishonesty of the authors of the law which "Justice Burch characterizes as a piece of legislative strategy," was done for a purpose. Governor Allen realized that if his board could secure the standing of a court in the public mind it would gain the support of that large element that believe courts, as kings, can do no wrong.

WOULD AID EXPLOITERS.

Cincinnati, March 25.—The best way to destroy legislation that protects women in iron foundries is to pass the "equal rights" amendment through the national legislature, declared John P. Frey, editor of International Moldersi Journal.

The proposed amendment provides: "No political, civil or legal inabilities or inequalities on account of sex or on account of marriage, unless applying alike to both sexes, shall exist within the United States, or any state or territory within their jurisdiction."

In other words," says Editor Frey, "the foundry codes in a number of states, which provide a female coremaker from lifting or handling equipment weighing above a certain amount, would have to be repealed because the placing of a limit upon the weight which a female mold corremaker can lawfully handle establishes an inequality based upon the fact that women, as such, cannot with safety to themselves handle the same weights which are handled by men.

"The abolition of any such proposition as advanced by the national woman's party would endanger, if not destroy, practically every legislative enactment properly and necessarily surrounding the female worker."

BROKER THIEVES ESCAPE.

New York, March 25.—While Wall street was urging the state legislature to pass a "can't-strike" law, that would handcuff labor to its task, these financiers did not fail to see that a bill that would protect stock brokers who have milcked the public out of millions of dollars.

No effective control can be exercised over the broker business, said District Attorney Banton, while suspected brokers can flee before the district attorney or the grand jury the right to inspect their books.

Wall street is strongly in favor of "protecting the innocent who become a stumbling free men, but not when its gambling game is interfered with.

WHY WAGES ARE LOW.

Boston, March 25.—Inefficiency and exploitation are causes Prof. Sumner Slichter, Harvard university assigns for low wages.

"Wages are low not because business cannot afford to pay more, but because business is inefficient," he said. "The tremendous waste in administration and organization is revealed by Mr. Hoover, whose business position, I am convinced, you will respect. Then, too, wages are low because they are kept low through exploitation."

Rail Board to Probe Shop Contract Plan

Chicago, March 25.—The railroad labor board has finally ordered an investigation of the shop contract plan used by the Erie and kindred transportation act. The first probe will be the Erie railroad's action in tearing up its pact with the Erie machinery company of Meadville, Pa.

The Erie was the first road to contract its repair work and more than a dozen systems have adopted this plan.

Under the contract plan hours are lengthened and wages reduced. The Meadville concern is headed by William Schlafer, a former mechanical engineer of the Erie.

The labor board has ruled that the pay of a car inspector shall be 72 cents an hour for a 10-hour day. The Erie company has cut rates for this important work to 67 cents an hour, with the work day 11 and 12 hours.

Railroad shop employes declare that the Erie's action in contracting repair work is so transparent that the railroad labor board should immediately denounce it.

HUGE TOBACCO PROFITS.

New York, March 25.—The world is a rosier hue for stockholders of the American tobacco company, which announces that record profits were made last year. These profits total $18,117,226, as against $14,277,250 the previous year. The immediate cause for the increase is reported at unless the risk reached that there are more taxes on cigars, and do not include even interest on bonds or magnificent salaries that "insiders" vote to themselves.

NO ANTI-UNION SHOP.

Cleveland, March 25.—Organized building craftsmen have notified the building trades employers' association that there will be no anti-union clause in the new wage agreement. Neither will there be an anti-union wedge inserted by which to talk about unsatisfactory working rules and practices."

High-Wage Workers Benefit Farmers More Than World Wide Markets

Washington, March 25.—"It is a mistake to look abroad for farmers to fight payment of good wages for an industry at home," says Secretary of Labor Davis, "it is called 'anti-labor,'" writes Benjamin C. Marsh, managing director of the farmers' national council, in the bulletin of that organization. The farmers' council is "a special union of the leading farm organizations of the country."

Only about 12 per cent to 15 per cent of the value of farm products is exported," said Mr. Marsh. "An increase of 15 per cent in domestic consumption of farm products is therefore just equivalent to doubling the present export of farm products.

"Farmers have never been prosperous in times of widespread unemployment, but, on the contrary, farmers be prosperous when farmers are busy.

"In view of the interdependency of farmers and other workers, the farmers' national council looks to labor leaders to help manufacturers and business men, and, also, notably the railroads and mine operators, to hammer down wages paid to labor, particularly in the steel trade. This should succeed it will react most seriously upon the farming industry.

"The census bureau reports that in 1919 the total wages direct and indirect paid in the steel industry was in round figures $1,256,000,000, while the value of farm products that year was in round figures $12,826,000,000. Some farmers object to high wages for labor in the steel industry, but it compels farmers themselves to pay higher wages to labor on the farm.

"In 1919, farmers' expenditures for labor were a little less than 20 per cent of the value of farm crops. In 1921, the value of farm crops was only about $5,500,000,000. Farmers could afford less help, and wages for farm labor were lower in 1921 than in 1919, but it is perfectly clear that it would have been impossible better for farmers to have paid farm labor $1,256,000,000 in 1921, as they did in 1919, because the crops were the same price for their 1921 crops as they did for the 1919 crops, or about $12,820,000,000. This they should have received, and they would have received under conditions this had labor been employed at fair wages.

"The domestic consumption of wheat was 720,000,000 bushels less in 1920 than in 1919. Although wages of farm labor were at the highest point in 1919, farm labor received only about 19 per cent of the value of farm crops in 1919. In 1921 farm labor received $1,600,000,000 for farm help, or a reduction of about 25 per cent from the amount paid in 1919. Thus farm labor on farms is 19 per cent of the value of farm products, which has always been most prosperous when wages of labor were highest. Reducing the wages paid to farm help will bring down the receipts of the farmers, and reduce himself, gets, because his interest in at least four or five times as great on the average as his labor as it is as an owner of property, or twenty times as great as it pays per cent on his entire investment.

"The tenant farmer's interest is solely that of the wage earner. While the denial of credit to farmers has forced the sale of farm crops in an orderly way instead of being forced to dump them upon the market, there were conditions were serious factors in the deflation of prices paid by farmers, notably for their products, the enormous extent of unemployment and the heavy reductions in wages paid workers in factories, mines, trade and transportation, which resulted in the deflation of prices farmers received for their products.

"Unemployment and the reduction in wages reduced the purchasing power of labor in this country by at least $5,000,000,000 during 1921. This loss of wages was about one-third greater than the total value of farm crops in that year, and it was approximately eight times as great as the value of foodstuffs exported during 1921. Deflation of the value added thereto by manufacture.

PRESSMEN HAVE VOICE IN WORK CONDITIONS

Washington, March 25.—Chief Justice Walter I. McCoy, of the District of Columbia supreme court, has ruled that the number of men to be employed on newspaper presses shall be governed by an agreement between newspaper managers and the International Pressmen's union No. 6.

Arbitrator McCoy's award is contrary to a recent award by Federal Judge Manton, who ruled that New York newspaper managers have the sole right to determine the number of men necessary to operate the presses.

Justice McCoy indicated that he was not impressed with Judge Manton's general principle that the "employer possesses care and discretion according to reasonable and humane principles for the health and safety of his employes."

"It is my judgment," said Justice McCoy, "that as the parties may honestly differ as to the proper number of men to be employed, due regard being had to safety and health, there is good reason for a specific agreement."

"The noise of a press room is almost deafening," he continued, "and is practically continuous while a run is being made. Whatever may be said about the degree of skill required, presses in operation demand unremitting attention while running at a very high rate of speed." He also said that the significance of the term "run" as applying the hearings "that all the presses in the composing room under modern are"—needed no elaboration.

Anti-Unionists' Guest Scores These Employers

Rochester, N. Y., March 25.—Pristine employers who are resisting the '44-hour week are growling because they can't get men, E. A. Kendrick, New York City employing printer, told the Rochester employing printers' club the "teapots" to address them.

He was to answer the question: "What is the matter with the printing industry?" Kendrick's address to "What is the matter with the typothetae," and then he proceeded to tell them.

The usual denunciation of trade unionists, strict music-and-lack-of-cheap-labor advocates, was missing. The speaker declared for all-around fair dealing. Shades mention of the speech was made in the daily newspapers of the city, the writing to forget their experience.

FORGOT THEIR PROMISE.

Cincinnati, March 25.—Organized building craftsmen are waiting for a building boom that was supposed to follow wage reductions.

Much noise was made about the many buildings that would be erected when wages were reduced. Everybody joined the glad refrain—contractors, newspapers, real estate business men.

The workers reduced wages, but as yet the promises have not been fulfilled.

HOLD UNION SHOP.

Rochester, N. Y., March 25.—Organized painters and electrical workers have refused to sign the open shop agreement with employers in this city.

MANURE COMPANY HEAD IS REPAIR SHOP CHIEF

Jersey City, N. J., March 25.—Shop employes of the Erie railroad have decided to await the railroad labor board's action before taking a strike vote on the company "farming out" its repair work.

The contracting concern is known as the Wagner construction and locomotive company, which has been organized to take over this work. The president of the concern, Cern is Charles Wagner, who is also president of the Jersey City manure company.

EFFICIENCY BUGS IGNORE R. R. GOUGE

Washington, March 25. — The apostles of efficiency, who are continually lecturing workers, can explore new fields by reading tariff No. 2, interstate commerce commission, 1858, castiron car wheels, class and commodity tariff.

Behind this cumbersome title is a rule that forbids shippers of heavy iron and junction points in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia using double-decked cars to eastern cities and certain interior eastern points.

One floor of the home Congressman Fulmer said that under this rule it took two cars, at a freight rate for a shipment of hogs from Springfield, S. C., to Richmond, as against a double-decked car that would cost $92. The shipper lost $15.

Congressman Fulmer also gave this insight into profiteering in agricultural nitrates, which is also a high-cost factor:

"Some time ago the government sold millions of tons of nitrate of soda around $35 per ton, in lots too large for the average farmer to buy, and since that time the importers, or this country, few in number, have bought more and are now holding from the market nitrate of soda, which is worth around $65 to $65 per ton, car lots delivered, as a fertilizer, according to address to "What is the matter with the typothetae," and then he proceeded to tell them.

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OUR "WISE STATESMEN" ARE SOMETIMES WRONG

Washington, March 25.—During a running debate in the senate on an appropriation bill, Mr. Norris of Nebraska, said:

"I recall that, when I came to congress, before I hardly got the seat assigned to me, in the first debate among the leaders of the Democratic party was the party condemning Langley for trying to fly through the air. I think Langley did fail on that first debate and read it to the senate. It is a wonderful example of eloquence and humor was spent in condemnation of those who thought that we might eventually get flying machines."

EXTEND CONVICT LABOR.

Seattle, March 25.—An extension of convict labor in this state is the way the unemployed problem is to be solved, Governor Hart has said he will ask the Walla Walla state penitentiary board of control to manufacture shoes, clothes, overalls, auto plates and other articles.

Officers of the state federation of labor declare that the new program will undo the humanitarian work of the former warden.

"Let the governor," he stated, "is one of the men in our state that has been appointed to administer the affairs of our state penal institutions. He is not a man of the type of modern civilized society. Modesty forbids us suggesting the name he is best fitted to fill in the penitentiary."

GAMBLING CHARGE UPHELD.

New York, March 25.—Repeated charges that stock exchanges are but gambling devices are sustained by an investigation of the American cotton exchange. It is shown that southern cotton farmers have lost millions annually on account of this exchange, which has been used to depress the price of cotton and rob the producer.

The exchange did not attempt to legally conduct and sell cotton, but made its money by "cross-trading," by inventing fictitious accounts, "scalping," and secret manipulation.

BUILDERS LOCKED OUT.

Champaign, Ill., March 25.—Sheet metal workers and painters here and in Urbana have been locked out. Agreements that do not expire until May 1 have been torn up, respectively, did not interfere with the union smashers' program.

VIOLATE INJUNCTION.

Detroit, Mich., March 25.—Five members of the Typographical union were fined $100 each because they violated Judge Webster's anti-picketing injunction.

MANUFACTURERS ARE ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE

Washington, March 25.—Manufacturers are the enemies of the people, declared Representative Langley, of Kentucky, in a speech in the house.

"Manufacturers are the people who do not understand the intricate problem," said Langley, "when they appeared for the Lockwood committee. "They may as well know that they have been beaten.

"But the fight is far from over. It has just begun. This administration has demonstrated to me that except in the case of 'when' when 'when' is thoroughly aroused, the corrupt conspiracies and the still more corrupt methods employed by them to the people of the state, and that, until the people are aroused and the power exterminated, government will continue to be a failure. In 15 years there has been no insurance legislation passed except what these combinations wanted. Not one has been possible, however urgent."

Among the defeated measures would prohibit fire insurance companies gambling in speculative stocks with policy holders' money. Others of these companies insisted that if he was not the policy holder's business to know what they did with the $650,000,000 and upwards in their hands.

ALLEN'S DAYS ARE FEW.

Topeka, Kan., March 25.—Political opponents of Governor Allen have begun their campaign. The political career has come to an end. The following statement illustrates the views of these opponents:

"Allen realizes his days are over. He talks about a third term but he knows he has no chance at the primary or the election. He and Bridgeman in the court were destined to go into the discard. Allen will be the third term candidate and no candidate of any party will defend the present industrial court law as it now stands."

WAGES AT WAR COLLEGE.

Washington, March 25. While millions of dollars are being pulled in by establishments an appropriation bill passed by the house provides the following salaries for employes at the army war college:

"Chief engineer, $7,460; assistant engineer, $1,600; captain of the watch, $1,200; six watchmen at $1,000 each; four firemen, at $720 each; fourteen laborers, at $720 each; four messengers, at $720 each; one messenger, at $600; engineer, $720; five charwomen, at $300 each; one charwoman, at $240; one charwoman, at $180."

Mailed Fist Replaces War-Time Honey Words

Seattle, March 25.—Lumber barons of the northwest have discarded their company "unions" and plant councils. The velvet glove and "hand of fellowship" are no longer in evidence, as them is now replaced by the mailed fist.

The lumber barons have slashed wages and are enforcing the 10-hour day. Officers of the International Union of Timber Workers warned lumber workers almost continuously of their danger.

In their latest bulletin, the union's officials said:

"During the war and since the lumber owners have been promising out their oily promises to the workers. On one breath they talked of co-operation and peace. In the same breath they prepared for war.

"After all, it is not a matter of what the employers will or will not do. It is not a matter of strength of their organizations or what they may accomplish through them. It is a matter of what the workers will or will not do. It is a matter of the strength of our organizations and what we can hope to accomplish with them.

"The workers cannot hope to save the eight-hour day without organization; they cannot hope to protect the interests of those who are dependent upon them for support; they cannot hope to retain their own self respect without organization.

"The one thing that is needed now above all other things is strong organization.

"Do not listen to the slippery promises of employers. Do not listen to the bought and paid for arguments of the loyal legion of loggers and lumbermen, the so-called 'company' plant councils' and other boss-ridden mutual admiration societies."

Huge Coal Profits Exposed by McAdoo

Washington, March 25.—The president was a movement on foot which calls former Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo's statement in November, 1919, that "shocking and indefensible profits" ranging as high as 2,000 per cent were made by coal owners in 1917.

The former "chief" said the former cabinet official, "because, as secretary of the treasury I was engaged in May, 1918, their income returns to the treasury. Before deduction of excess profits taxes—the tax laws in 1917 than now—these returned profits ranged from 100 per cent on their capital stock ranging from 15 per cent to 2,000 per cent. Earnings of 100 to 200 per cent on capital stock were not uncommon.

"I assume that we may be forgiven for granted that the income tax returns of these companies are more likely to understate than to overstate the earning power for the purpose of taxation.

"I earnestly urge also that these income tax returns be published. The law ought to be published so that the American people can know what has been the actual size of the earnings of the bituminous coal owners. They are entitled to know the information, and there is no reason why it should be withheld. Publication permits it in certain circumstances."

SPECIAL INTERESTS ALARM.

Albany, N. Y., March 25.—Special interests in the state legislature defeated every bill that even had an indirect bearing on the housing situation.

"Nothing is to be gained by hunting ourselves on the people who do not understand the intricate problem," said Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the Lockwood committee. "They may as well know that they have been beaten.

"But the fight is far from over. It has just begun. This administration has demonstrated to me that except in the case of 'when' when 'when' is thoroughly aroused, the corrupt conspiracies and the still more corrupt methods employed by them to the people of the state, and that, until the people are aroused and the power exterminated, government will continue to be a failure. In 15 years there has been no insurance legislation passed except what these combinations wanted. Not one has been possible, however urgent."

Among the defeated measures would prohibit fire insurance companies gambling in speculative stocks with policy holders' money. Others of these companies insisted that if he was not the policy holder's business to know what they did with the $650,000,000 and upwards in their hands.

ALLEN'S DAYS ARE FEW.

Topeka, Kan., March 25.—Political opponents of Governor Allen have begun their campaign. The political career has come to an end. The following statement illustrates the views of these opponents:

"Allen realizes his days are over. He talks about a third term but he knows he has no chance at the primary or the election. He and Bridgeman in the court were destined to go into the discard. Allen will be the third term candidate and no candidate of any party will defend the present industrial court law as it now stands."

WAGES AT WAR COLLEGE.

Washington, March 25. While millions of dollars are being pulled in by establishments an appropriation bill passed by the house provides the following salaries for employes at the army war college:

"Chief engineer, $7,460; assistant engineer, $1,600; captain of the watch, $1,200; six watchmen at $1,000 each; four firemen, at $720 each; fourteen laborers, at $720 each; four messengers, at $720 each; one messenger, at $600; engineer, $720; five charwomen, at $300 each; one charwoman, at $240; one charwoman, at $180."

LEVY ASSESSMENT FOR BIG WAR CHEST

New York, March 25.—To provide $1,000,000 defense fund, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union are called upon to assess themselves $20 to contribute $20. The funds will be raised through the 1,200 shop chairmen.

The union's contract expires next May 1 and the employers are already locked out their employes, in an attempt to destroy the agreement, which provides for 44-hour week, time and a half for overtime and double pay for holiday work. They were defeated.

Benjamin Schlesinger is corresponding with Secretary of Commerce Hoover and Secretary of Labor Davis in an attempt to promote investigation of the garment industry. Employers are in accord with this plan, but the real motives of their profits are not included. The public is asked by the unions to investigate retailers and textile mill owners be included.

The garment bosses are decidedly adverse to this program. They declare that the public and the unionists will not accept a probe of their wages, and also an inquiry by some "impartial" as to the advantages of piece work.

IRON ERECTING IS DEADLY.

Chicago, March 25.—In its industrial bulletin, issued for March, 1922, just issued, Structural Iron Workers' union No. 1, shows that the average life of the 1,000 members of the 140 accidents was four and one-half years, while the average age was 29½ years.

"The significance of the average age can be better understood," it is stating," says the report, "that out of every 100 structural iron workers in the building trades, many will be unable to follow their vocation when 50 years of age. It is an undeniable fact that general hazardous conditions existing in the trade, and the accidents prevailing therein are requiring younger and stronger men.

"How are these old men to earn their living, when, after spending the best part of their lives at this work, are thrown upon the labor market in their 'advanced age' of 50 years'

The report shows that 23 per cent of the accidents are caused by falling struck by machinery or falling objects, 17 per cent of the accidents the worker slipped and fell, and 17½ per cent the worker was caught in the machinery.

The unionists insist that these accidents could be reduced if there were a proper supervision of working conditions, examination of tools and machinery and by giving every man sufficient time to take all necessary precautions in the execution of his task.

ACCEPT INFANT-AID ACT.

Washington, March 25.—Three and one-half months after passage, 34 states have accepted the Sheppard-Towner maternity act. Twenty-four "first" have made application between the states and the federal government, and twenty-letter agrees to match every dollar states set aside for the promotion of the welfare and knowledge, of maternity and infancy. There is nothing one. The law provides that the and a mother does not have to accept its educational features.

FAVOR COMPANY "UNIONS."

Chicago, March 25.—Peace in industrial relations, according to Stephen A. Day, president of the Illinois manufacturers' association, depends on the success of company unions, according to a statement issued by the association.